AP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 JUN 2006

i/ŤO-1390 (Rev. 07-2005) Approved for use through 3/31/2007. OMB 0651-0021

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) NO. (Mknown, see 37 CFR 1.5) **CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371** INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 10 December 2003 10 December 2004 PCT/US2004/041792 TILE OF INVENTION SURGICAL RETRACTOR, AND METHOD FOR ESTABLISHING AN ENLARGED OPERATING FORTAL IN A PATTENT APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US TSAHAKIS, Paul Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information: 1. X This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. The US has been elected (Article 31). A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) is attached hereto (required only if not communicated,by the International Bureau). X has been communicated by the International Bureau. is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). is attached hereto. has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). XAmendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). have been communicated by the International Bureau. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. have not been made and will not be made. An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 9. [X] An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). (unsigned) An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included: An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. A preliminary amendment An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. A substitute specification. (unsigned) A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) PCT/US2004/041792 219/1US Other items or information: 20 Formal Drawings (Replacement Sheets 1-25) **CALCULATIONS** PTO USE ONLY The following fees have been submitted 21. 300.00 22. Examination fee (37 CFR 1.492(c)) 200.00 If the written opinion prepared by ISA/US or the international preliminary examination report prepared All other situations......\$200 Search fee (37 CFR 1.492(b)) If the written opinion of the ISA/US or the International preliminary examination report prepared by IPEA/US indicates all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)..... 100.00 Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority..... International Search Report prepared by an ISA other than the US and provided to the Office or previously communicated to the US by the IB......\$400 All other situations..... 600,00 TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23 = Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing in compliance with 37 CFR 1.821(c) or (e) or computer program listing in an electronic medium) (37 CFR 1.492(i)). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof. **Total Sheets** RATE Extra Sheets Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number) 0.00 x \$250 Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing any of the search fee, examination fee, or the oath or declaration 130.00 after the date of commencement of the national stage (37 CFR 1.492(h)). NUMBER FILED NUMBER EXTRA RATE \$ CLAIMS 20 0 Total claims - 20 = x \$ 50 0.00 \$ 200.00 Independent claims - 3 = 1 \$200 MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable) \$360 \$ 0.00 **TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =** 930.00 Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2. 465.00 SUBTOTAL = \$ 465.00 Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest 0.00 claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(i)). TOTAL NATIONAL FEE = \$ 465.00 Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied \$ by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property 0.00 TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED = 465.00 Amount to be \$ refunded: Amount to be \$ charged

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AP3 Rec'd P01/P10 09 JUN2 P10 390 (Rev. 07-2005)

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a. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. Please charge my Deposit Account No in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No	
and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.	
Jeffrey J. Schwartz Schwartz Law Firm, P.C. SouthPark Towers 6100 Fairview Road Suite 1135 Charlotte North Carolina 28210 Tel: 704/552-1889 Fax: 704/552-1866 Email: jjs@schwartz-iplaw.com	SIGNATURE Jeffrey J. Schwartz NAME 37532 REGISTRATION NUMBER